

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 0752

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC UR
SUBJECT: AGRARIAN JOURNALIST EXCHANGE

DEPARTMENT FOR CU/EE
AGRICULTURE PASS US/USSR SECRETARIAT

REF: MOSCOW 0662

1. UNION OF JOURNALISTS PROPOSES EXCHANGE OF EITHER POLITICAL OR AGRARIAN REPORTERS (UP TO FIVE EACH SIDE) IN 1975 OR 1976 AT OUTSIDE. EMBASSY FAVORS AND SEES MUCH MERIT IN SELECTING AGRARIAN SPECIALISTS, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF EXCHANGE OF AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION AGREEMENT AND INTEREST ON U.S. SIDE TO INCLUDE JOURNALISTS ON TEAMS. HOPEFUL AN INITIAL EXCHANGE COULD LEAD TO FURTHER EXCHANGES OF ECONOMIC/POLITICAL WRITERS. REQUEST ADVISE AT LEAST INITIAL REACTION BEFORE FEB 6. RETURN MEETING WITH UNION OFFICIALS.

2. FYI, IN INITIAL MEETING ON SUBJECT JAN 16, UNION UNPRECEDENTLY RECEPTIVE AND AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO HOLD P&C-SUGGESTED AMERICAN WINE-TASTING, PROGRAM AMERICAN BUSINESS PRESS STAG (REFTEL) AND CONSIDER OTHER ACTIVITIES AT UNTIL NOW PRACTICALLY INVIOLEATE HOUSE OF JOURNALISTS. INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS EVEN THANKED EMBOFFFS FOR "INITIATIVE." IN LIGHT OF FOREGOING, SUGGEEST EXTRA ATTENTION BE PAID TO THIS FURTHER EXCHANGE PROPOSAL.
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